REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Claims 1, 10, 19, and 28 are amended for clarification purposes. Reconsideration and in view of the above amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim 37 C.F.R. 1.121(c)(ii).

The Office Action rejects claims 1-28 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Zdybel et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,486,686) in view of Durbin (U.S. Patent No. 5,414,251). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

In particular, Applicants assert that neither Zdybel or Durbin, either alone or in combination, disclose or suggest a system for producing and processing a paper document, having at least a token generator that generates user-selectable tokens, and a selector that allows a user to select one or more decoded tokens from a list of decoded tokens, as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 10, 19 and 28.

Zdybel discloses an electronic document processing system that can couple hard copy outputs to an electronic document from which a human readable hard copy is produced. See column 1, lines 11-15. Zdybel enables data which is potentially important to the accuracy and/or completeness of the reconstruction of the electronic source document 32 to be recovered, even if such data is not evident or inferable from the appearance of the human readable rendering of the source document. See column 10, lines 7-27. The system can be utilized for storing and communicating a machine readable description of all or any selected part of the electronic source document 32, as well as descriptions of the equipment and process employed for producing the source document 32 and the human readable rendering 45. See column 10, lines 40-45. Documents can be printed to include digitally embedded data descriptions and can be distributed by mail. See column 10, lines 55-60.

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Durbin discloses a scanner for reading optical information sets. See column 2, lines 16-18. Rectangular areas within a displayed area may be highlighted to indicate to a user which areas are probable bar codes, and may annunciate that bar code symbol, or portion thereof, which the microprocessor 26 is currently attempting to decode. See column 4, lines 55-61. The user views the display 28 of the bar codes, moves the reader 10 and zooms as necessary as a desired bar code symbol 20 comes into view. See column 5, lines 35-50 and figure 2. The reader 10 continues to show the viewed field in the display 10 even as it decodes the bar code symbol 20. Only one bar code can be selected to be decoded from a page containing many adjacent bar codes that have not been decoded.
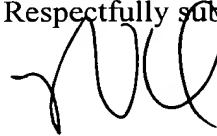
In stark contrast to Applicants' claimed invention, neither Zdybel nor Durbin disclose or suggest a selector that allows a user to select one or more <u>decoded tokens from a list of decoded tokens</u>. On the contrary, Durbin clearly shows that the display on the reading device displays bar codes that have not been decoded. Then, a user can auto focus and zoom on to one desired bar code symbol so that the one desired bar code symbol can be decoded. Accordingly, the display in Durbin <u>does not</u> provide a list of decoded tokens so that a user can select one or more decoded tokens from the list of the decoded tokens.

Accordingly, because Durbin fails to compensate for the deficiencies in Zdybel, Applicants assert that it would not have been obvious to combine the references to arrive at the Applicants' claimed invention. Thus, Applicants' assert that independent claims 1, 10, 19 and 28 define patentable subject matter. Claims 2-9, 11-18 and 20-27 depend from independent claims 1, 10 and 19, respectfully, and therefore also define patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections under 35 USC § 103(a) be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that this application is condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-28 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:RSE/dlh

Attachment:
    Appendix

Date: November 13, 2001

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DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION
Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 24-0037

APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

1.   (~~Four~~Five-Times Amended) A system for producing and processing a paper document, comprising:

a token generator that generates user-selectable tokens relating to at least one other document, the other document being an electronic document, for purposes of linking the other document;

an encoder that encodes the generated tokens;

a printer that prints the encoded tokens onto the paper document; and

a selector that allows a user to select one or more decoded tokens from a list of decoded tokens.

10.   (~~Four~~Five-Times Amended) A system for producing and processing a paper document, comprising:

token generating means for generating user-selectable tokens relating to at least one other document, the other document being an electronic document, for purposes of linking the other document;

encoding means for encoding the generated tokens;

printer means for printing the encoded tokens onto the paper document; and

a selector means for selecting one or more of the user-selectable tokens that have been decoded from a list of decoded tokens.

19.   (~~Four~~Five-Times Amended) A method for producing and processing a paper document, comprising:

generating user selectable tokens relating to at least one other document, the other document being an electronic document, for purposes of linking the other document;

encoding the generated tokens;

printing the encoded tokens onto the paper document; and

selecting one or more of the user-selectable tokens <u>that have been decoded</u>

from a list <u>of decoded tokens</u>.

28   <u>(Amended)</u> A system for <u>processing</u> a paper document, comprising:

a scanner that reads embedded tokens in the paper document;

a segment token decoder that receives image data from the scanner and

identifies and decodes the tokens in order to generate a list of <u>decoded</u> tokens; and

a token selector that allows a user to select which <u>decoded</u> tokens to access

from the list <u>of decoded tokens</u>.